



**33<sup>rd</sup>** Annual **INCOSE**  
international symposium

hybrid event

Honolulu, HI, USA  
July 15 - 20, 2023



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# Think Like An Ecosystem: Transitioning Waste Streams to Value Streams

# 2,010,000,000

A decorative graphic in the bottom left corner featuring a stylized globe composed of yellow, green, blue, and red squares. Three curved grey lines sweep across the globe from the bottom left towards the center.

# 70%



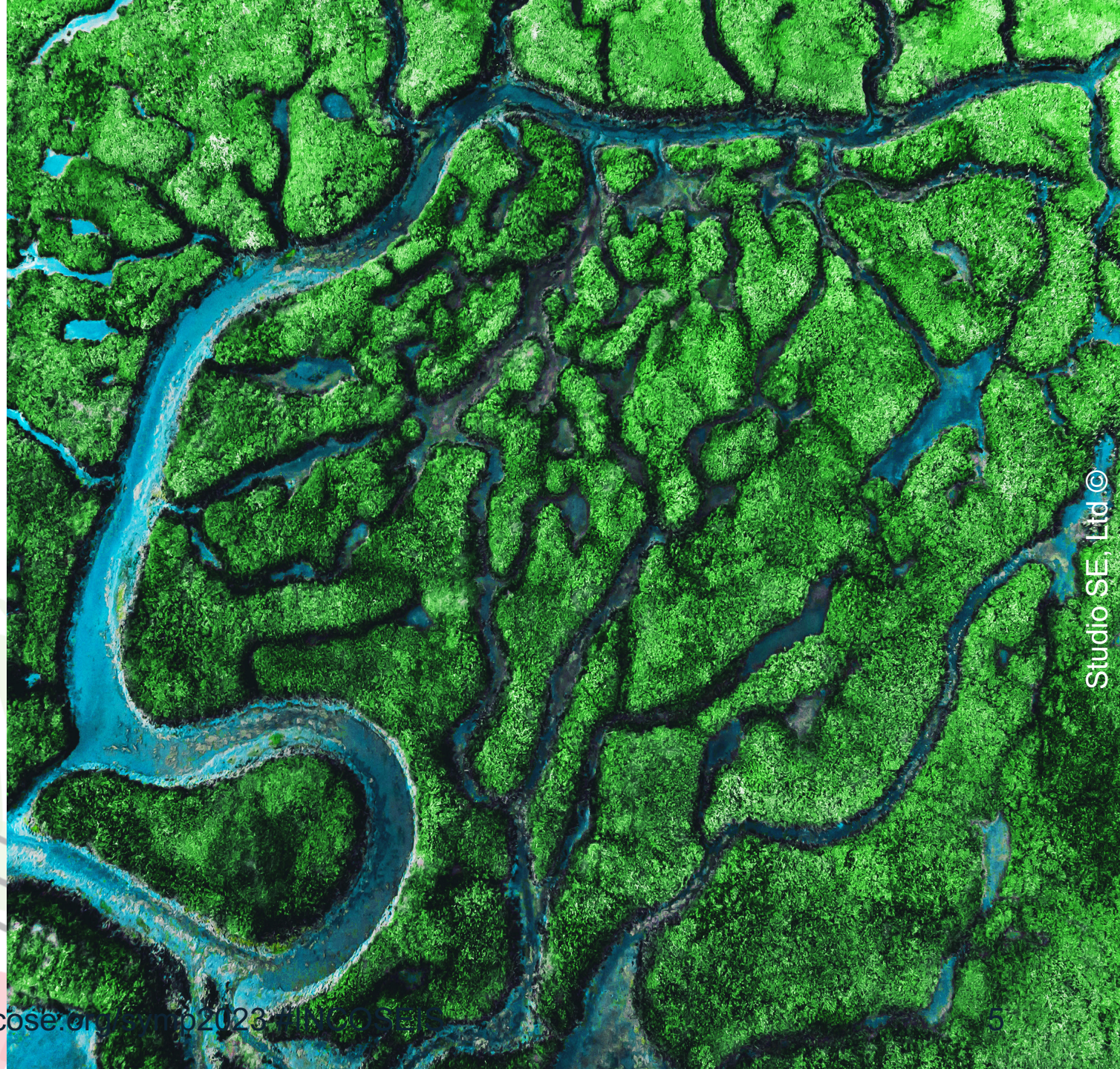
# The 4 Laws of Ecology

# Law I: There Is No Such Thing As A Free Lunch

## *Selection Pressure*

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# Law II: Nature Knows Best

## *Constant Adaptation*

# Law III: Everything Is Connected To Everything Else

## *Causal Complexity*

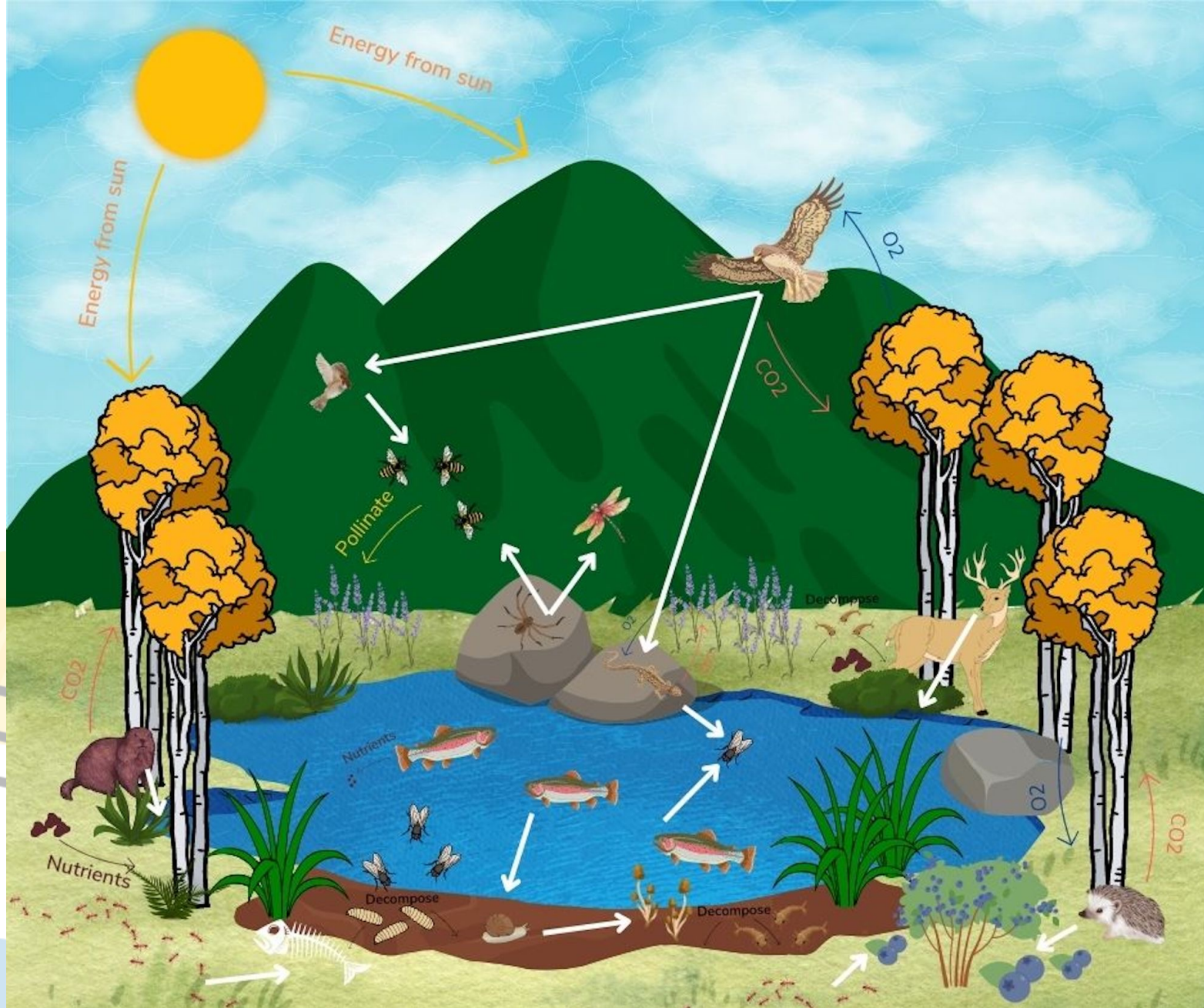
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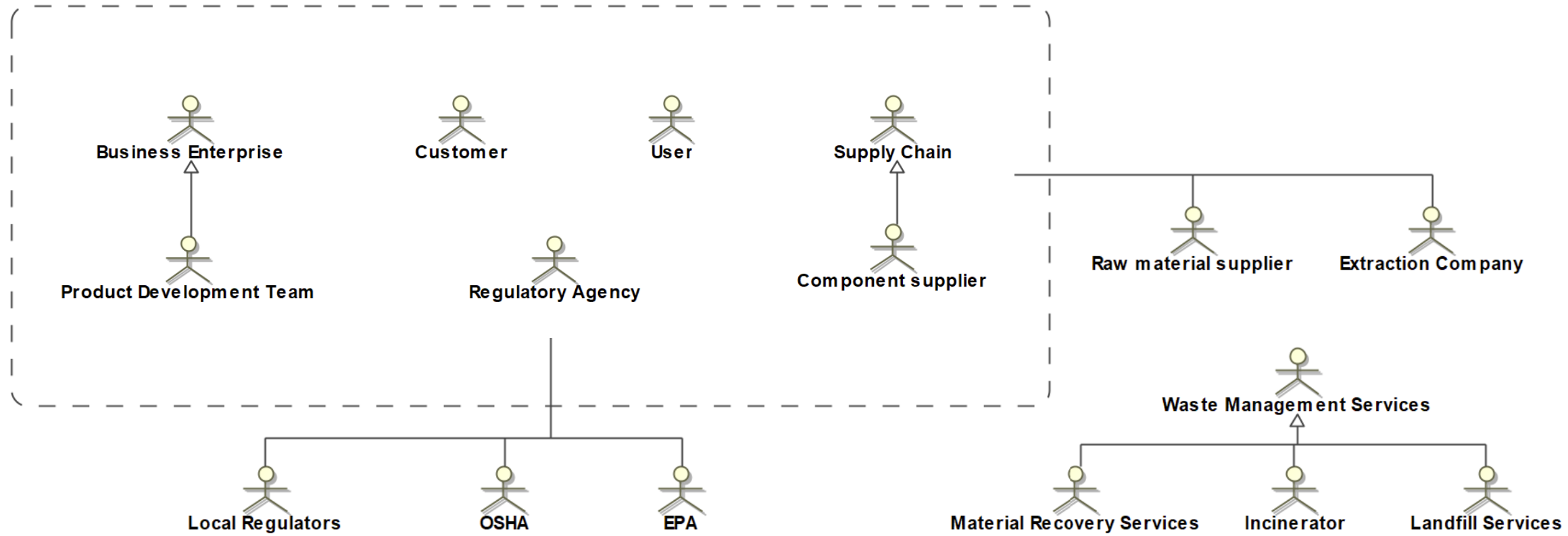
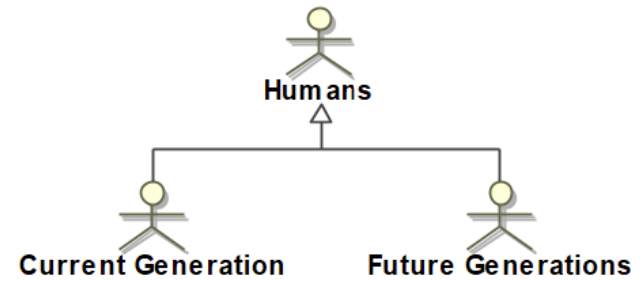
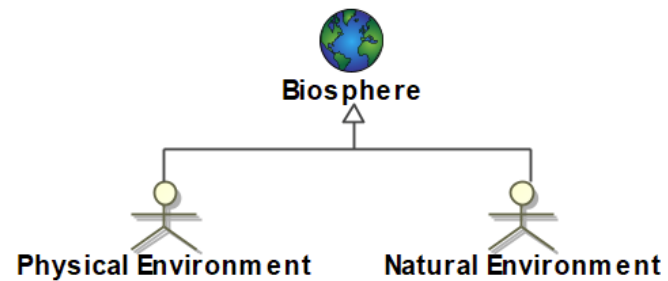


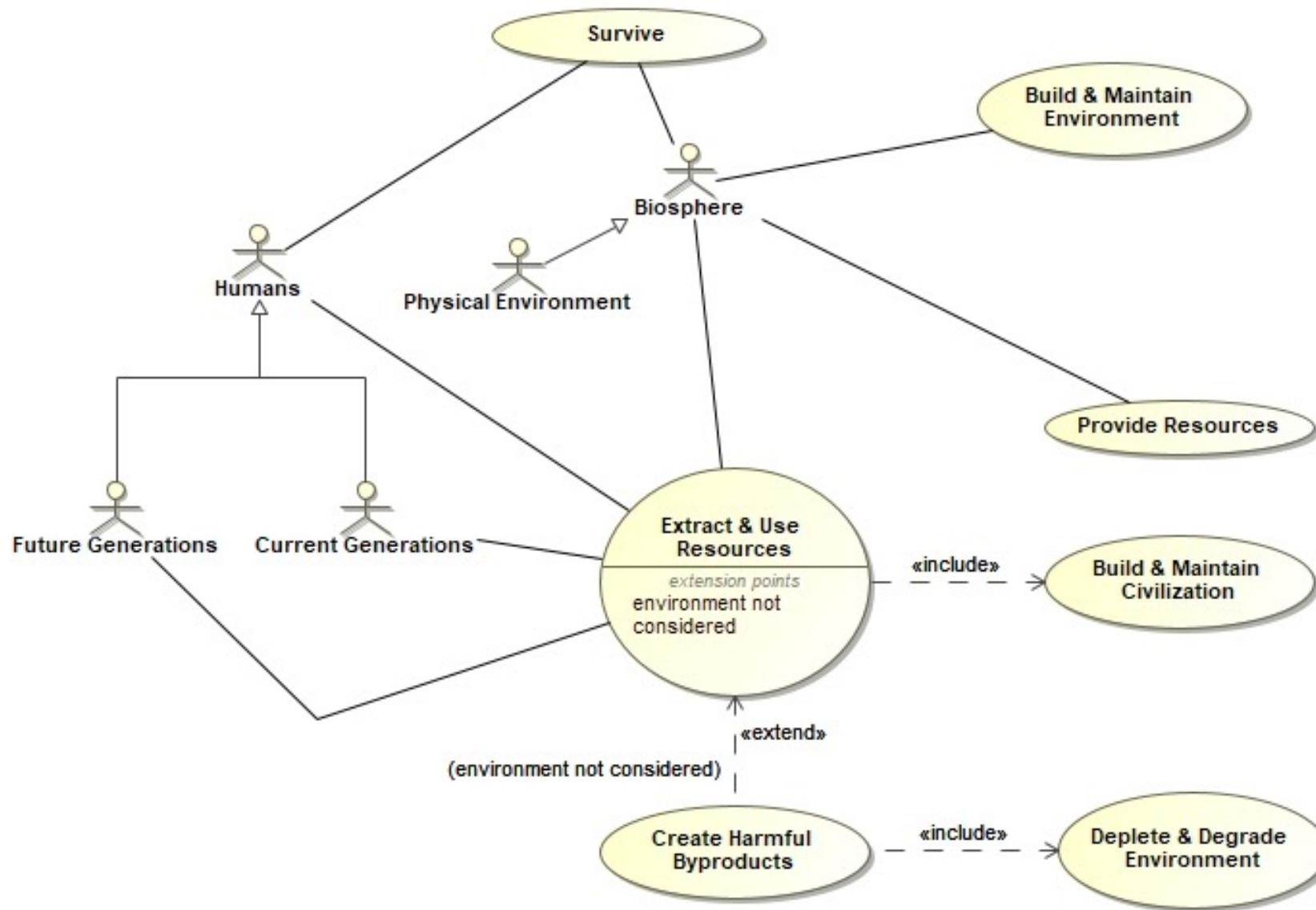
# Law IV: Everything Must Go Somewhere

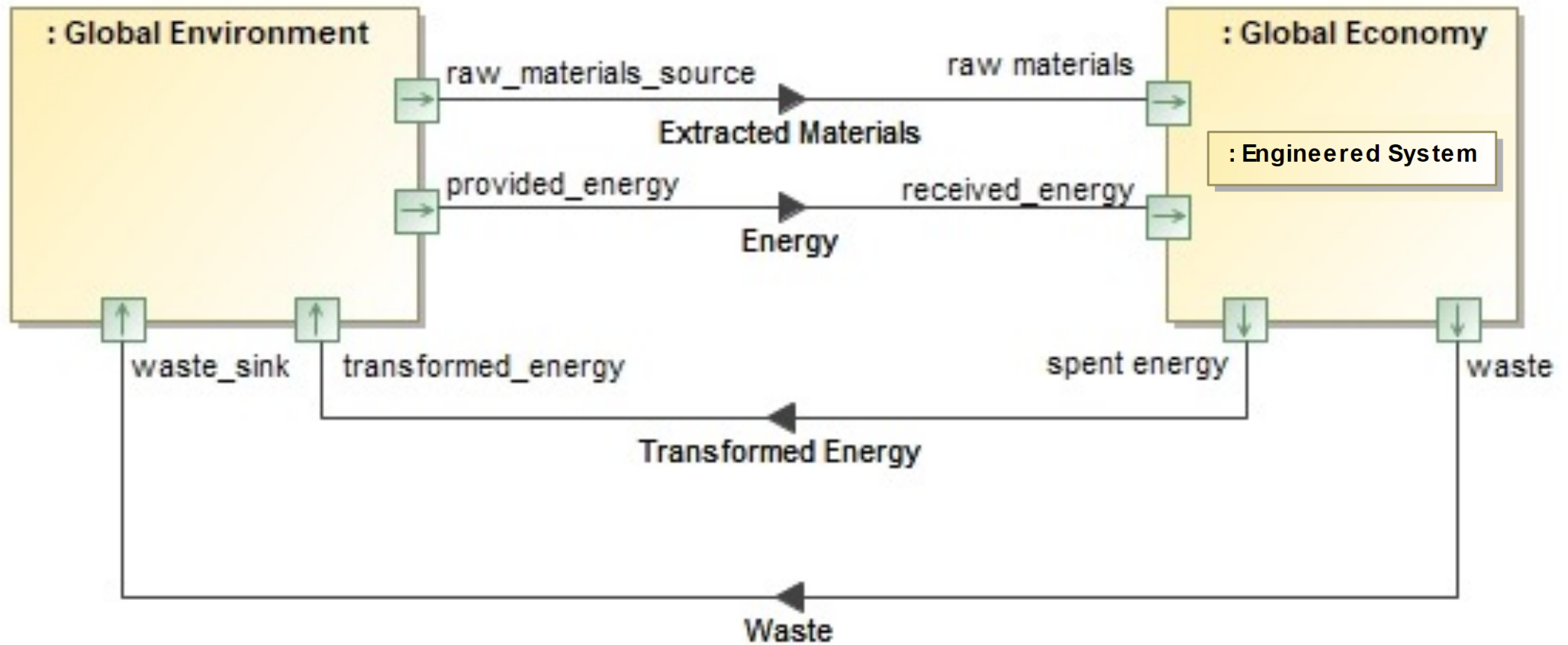
## *Inclusive System Boundaries*







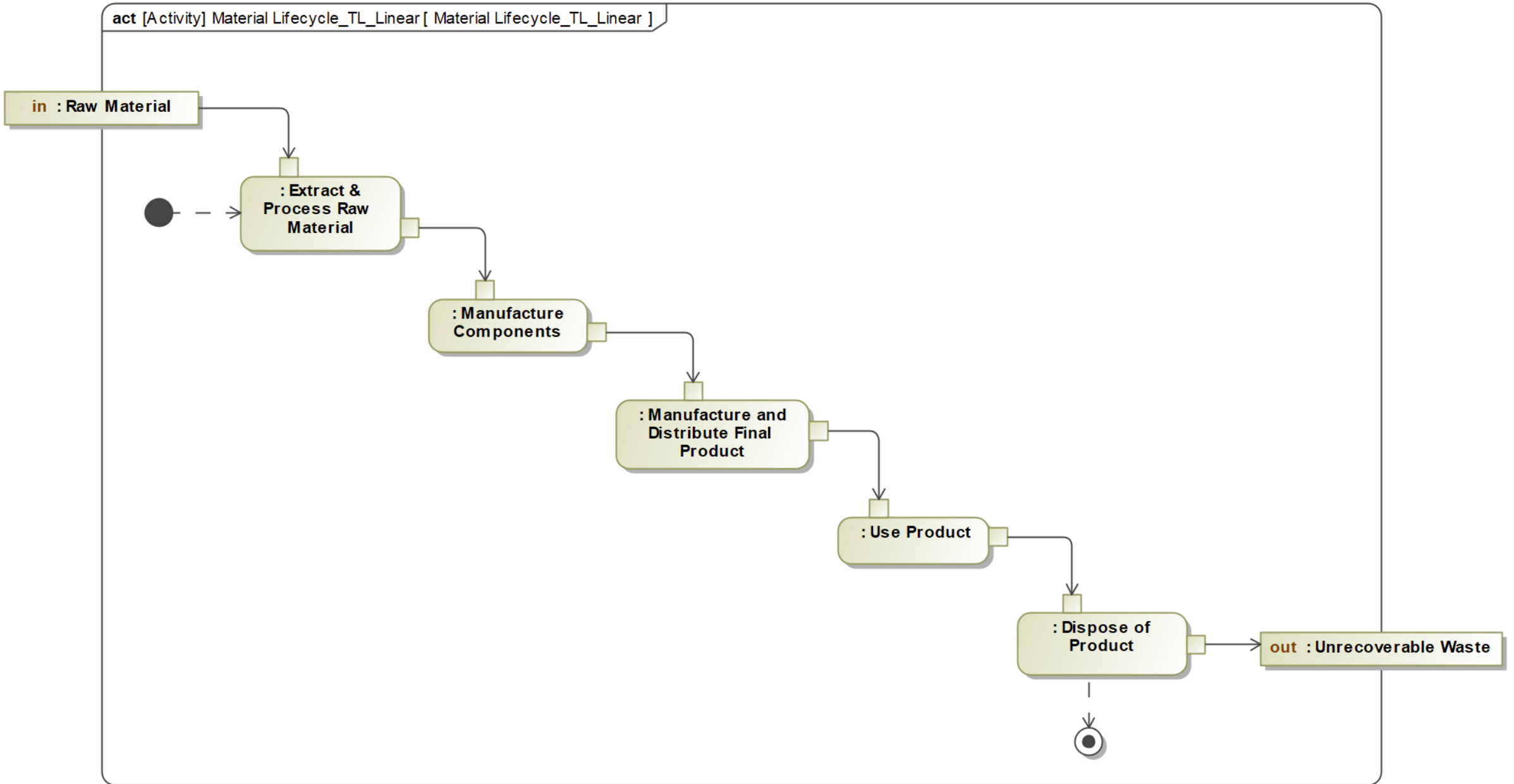


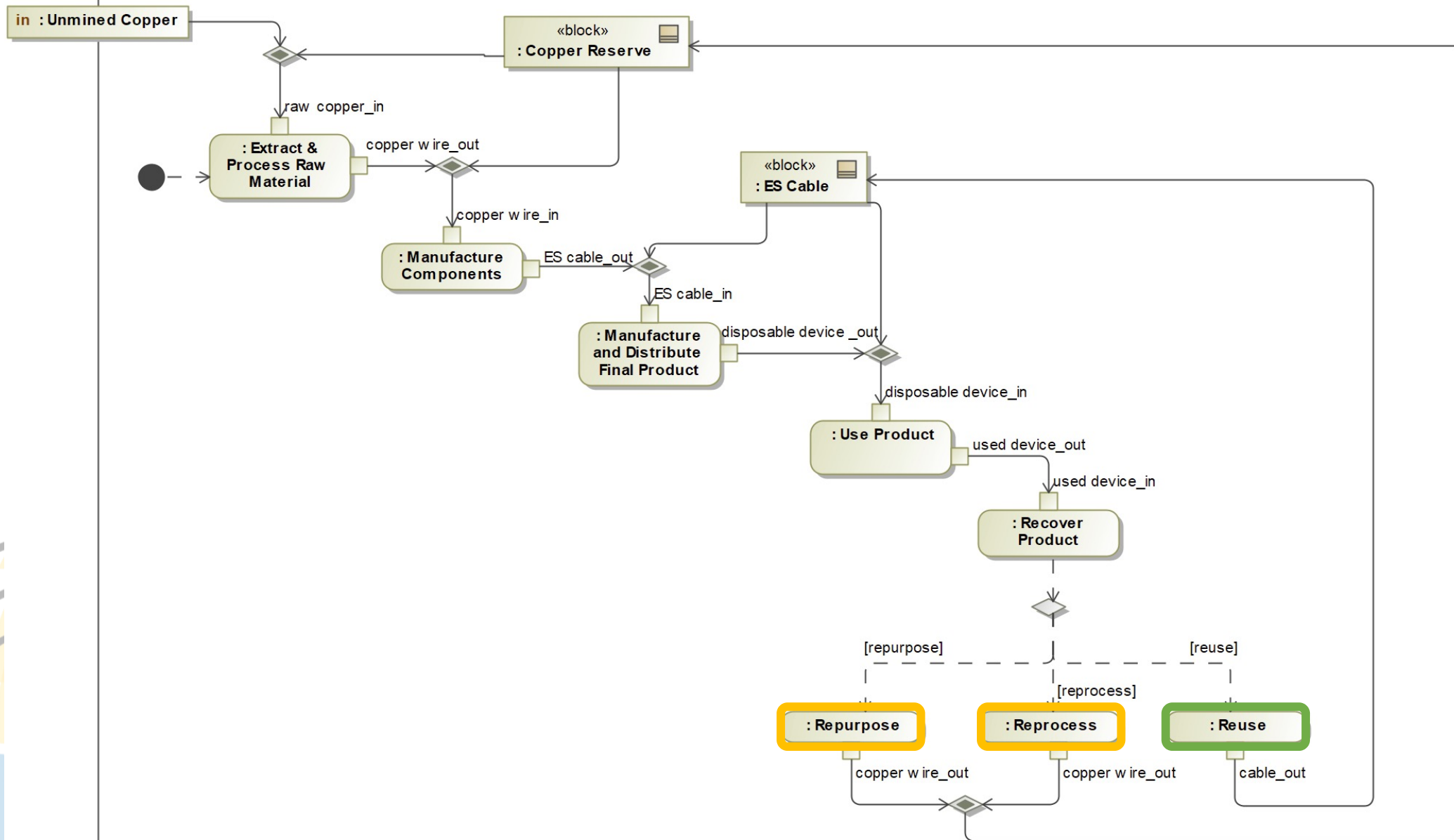


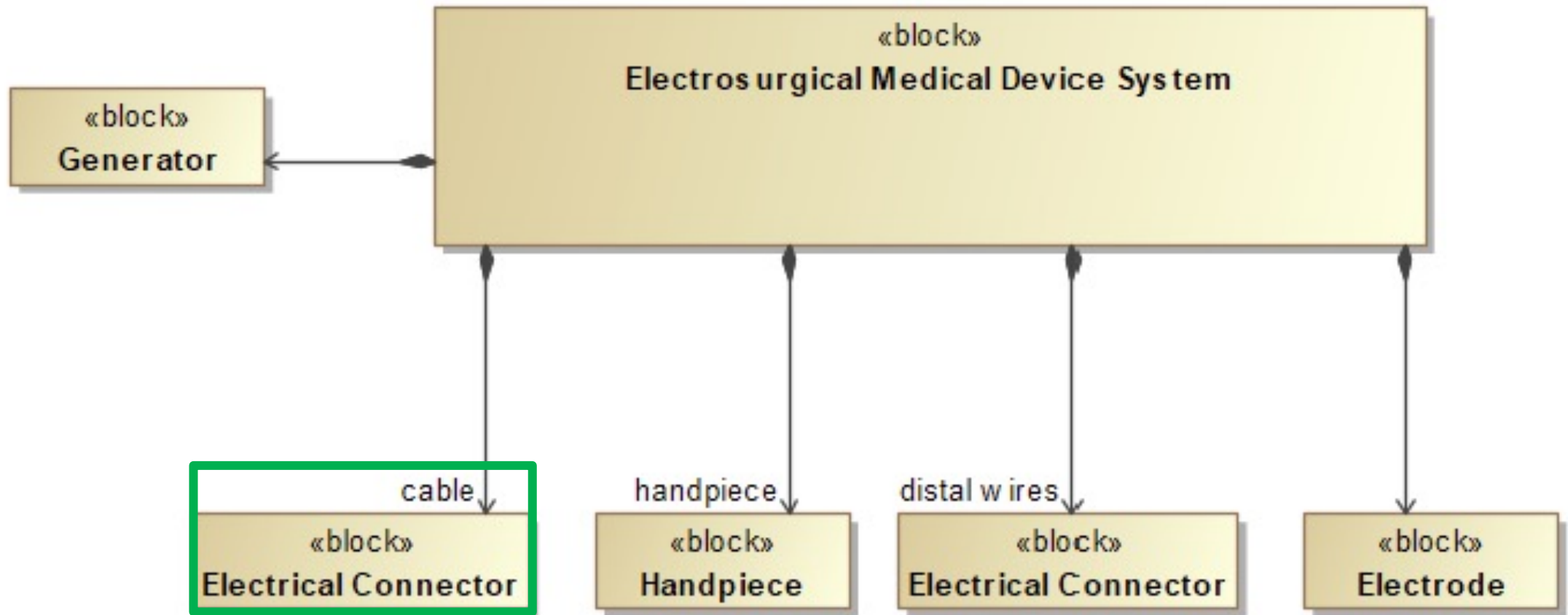


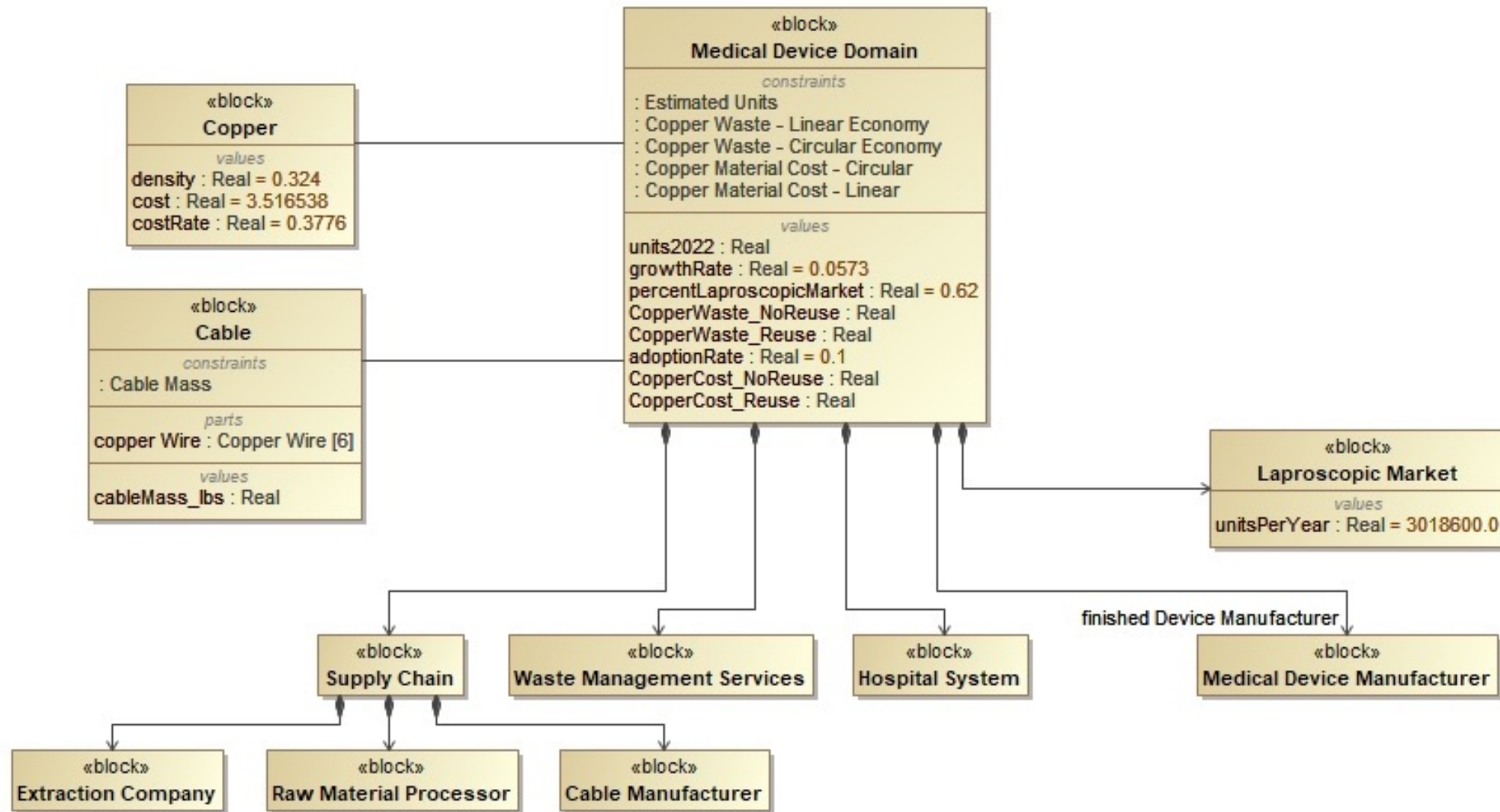
# Copper Cycles in Medical Devices

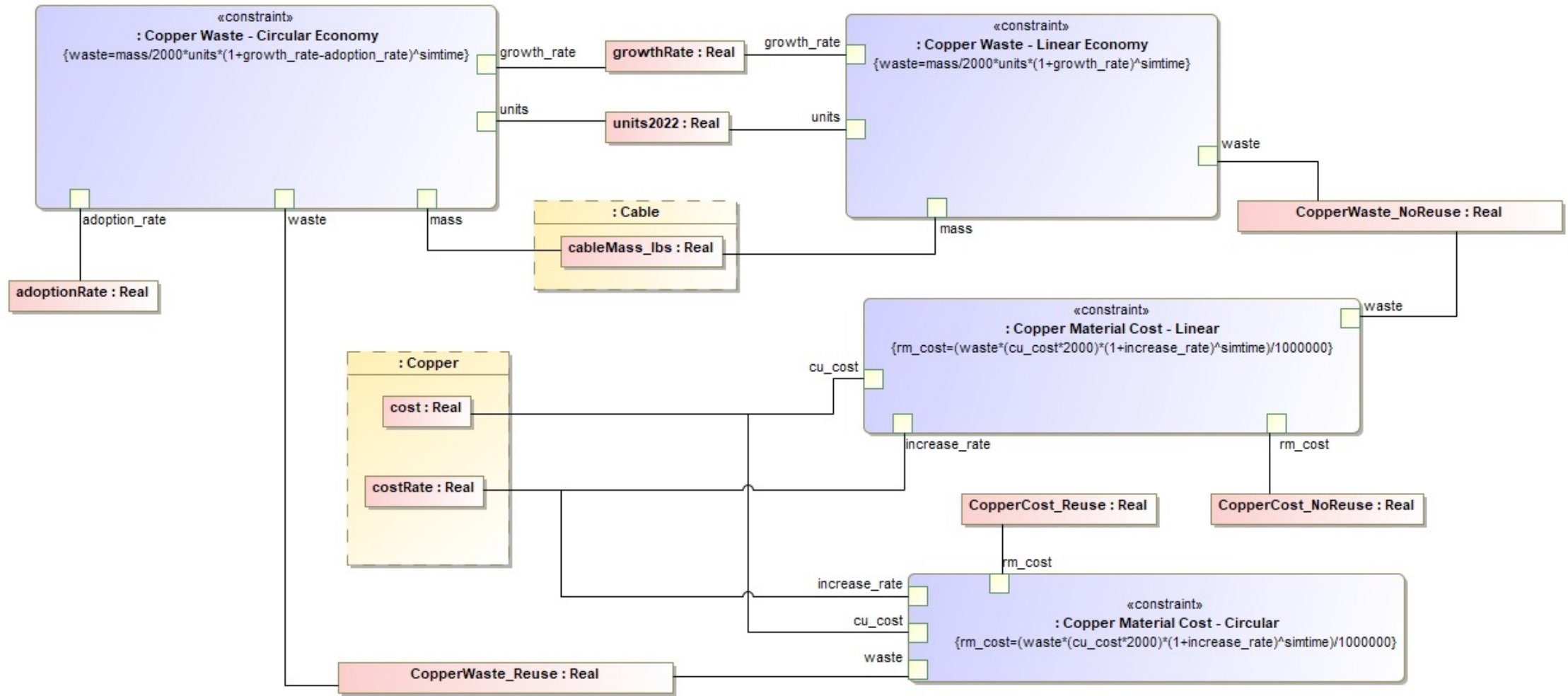
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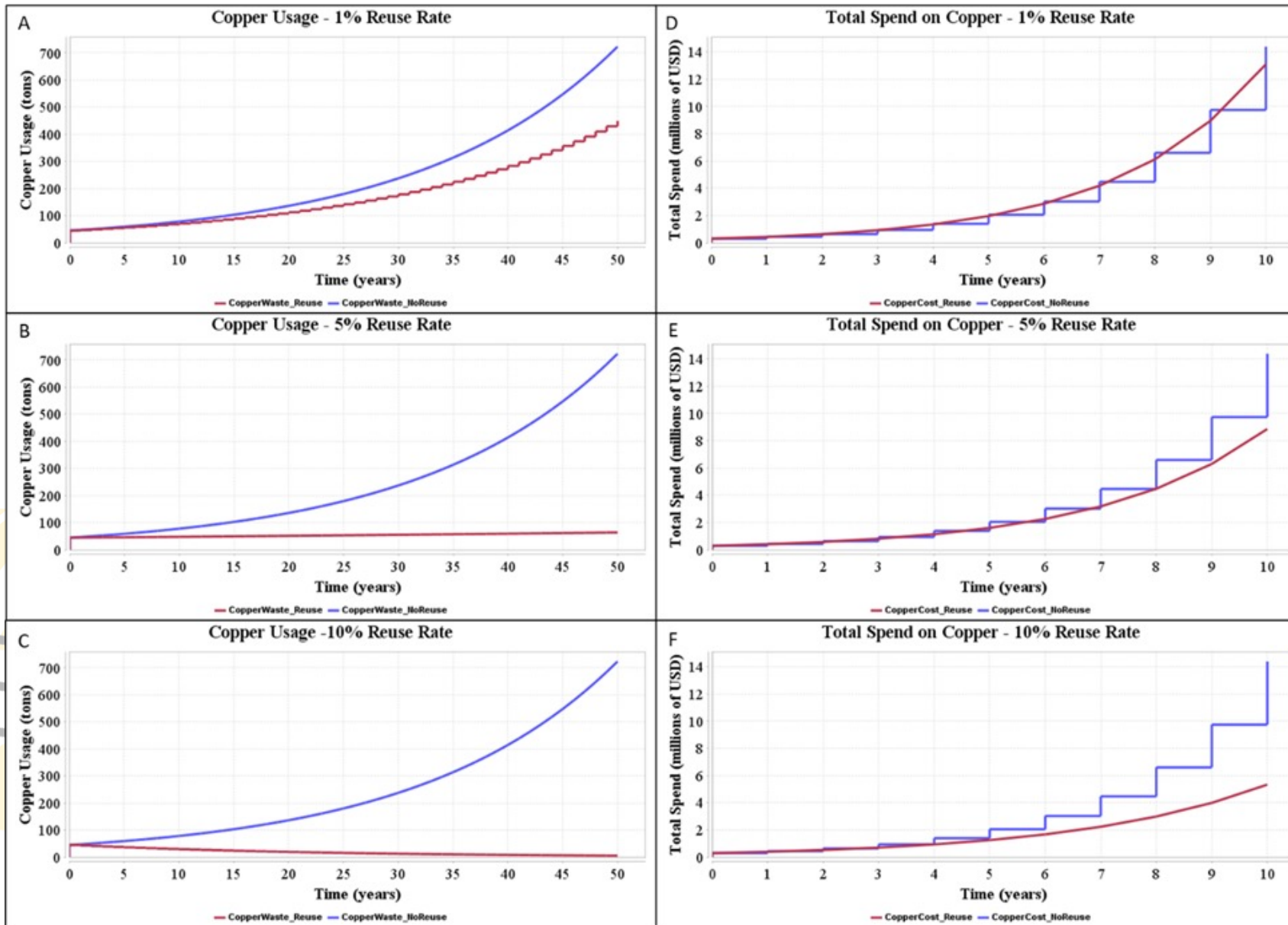














# Closing the Waste & Resource Loop

# What can I do as a Systems Engineer?

- Identify environments as stakeholders in early stakeholder identification and research.
- Expand system scope and boundary analyses to ensure interfaces with sources and sinks are considered.
- Explicitly identify raw material suppliers and waste handlers as stakeholders.
- Using the newly identified stakeholders listed above, ensure those stakeholders' needs are correctly and adequately transformed into system requirements.
- Include environmental considerations in material and production process selection trade studies.
- Include sources and sinks as references in manufacturing models such that interfaces can be described and the impacts of material selections and production methods on environmental interfaces can be assessed.



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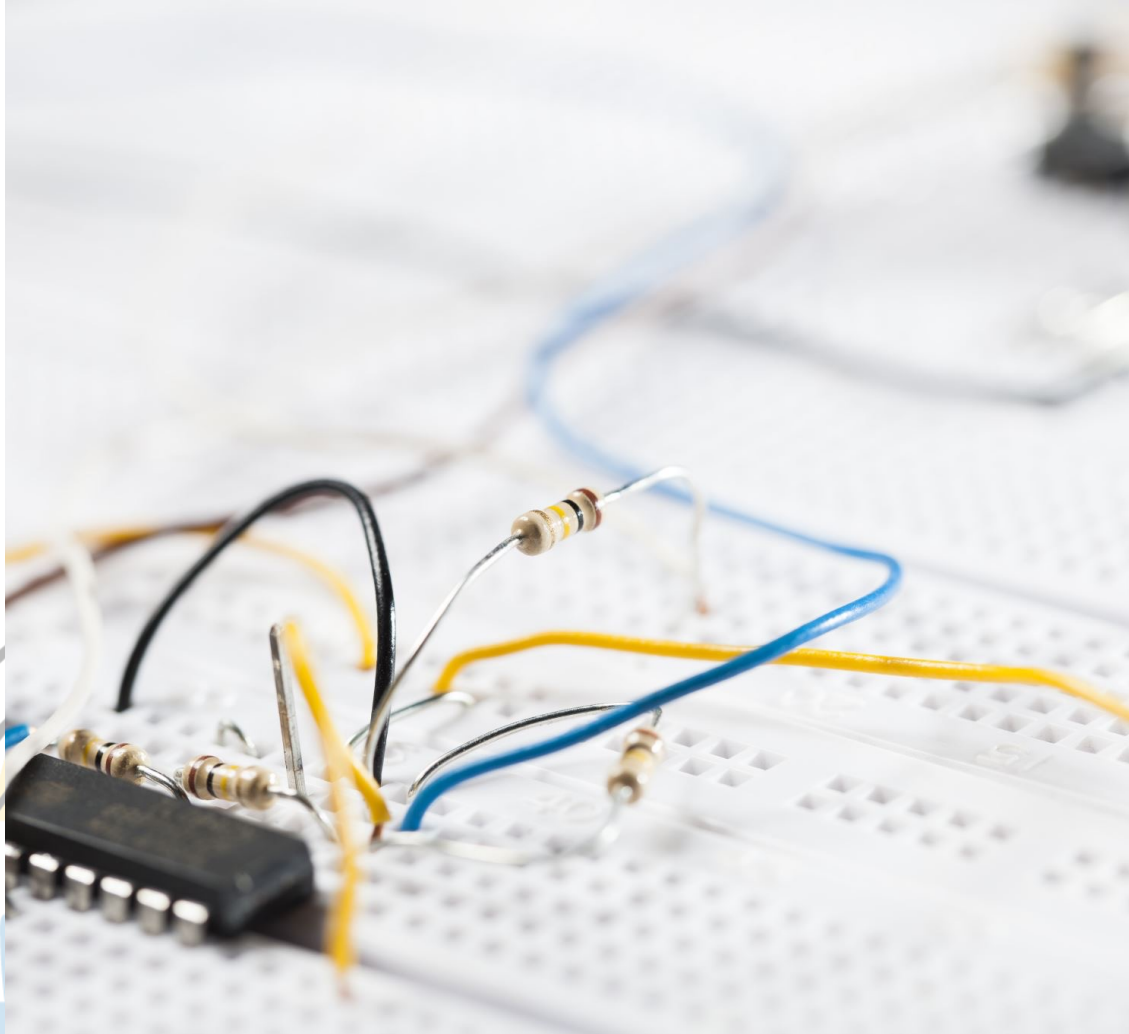
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# Questions?

# Applying SE Knowledge



**Causal complexity:** The characterization of the impact of interactions among and between systems and their interfaces is a foundational concept in systems engineering.

**Adaptability:** The resilience of engineered systems, production mechanisms, supply chains to consider future states and plan for the inclusion of circular design.

**Inclusive system boundaries:** Recognizing environments and environmental factors as stakeholders of our system, we expand our scope of practice to ensure our design decisions properly capitalize on opportunities to include elements of circularity.

**Selection pressure:** Actively considering environmental factors, systems engineers can apply pressure to vendors and suppliers to source materials and components from increasingly circular sources. This work begins with appropriately inclusive requirements.

# Circular Economies

